



SWAT Dog Performance Objectives

These Performance Objectives are based on a Reality-Based training format, in order to optimize training efficiency and also to provide the most realistic training environment possible, within the current time/logistical constraints. These guidelines also are consistent with internationally-accepted performance standards for SWAT Dogs.

The skills outlined in these Performance Objectives are considered important for the seasoned/veteran SWAT Dog. However, if an Agency or Handler does not perceive the need for all 11 scenario skill-sets, certification by individual scenario is available.

General Information

1. The skills favorable for successful deployment of a SWAT Dog are recognized within the below-listed categories. The Dog can be successfully trained to an appropriate skill level by a qualified SWAT Dog Handler under the guidance of a qualified SWAT Dog Instructor. The competency can then be evaluated and declared by a qualified SWAT Dog Judge.
2. A SWAT Dog is intended to supplement or enhance Tactical Team personnel in situations wherein the abilities of a Dog may be useful. The utilization of a SWAT Dog must never compromise the integrity of an operation. The application of such a Dog must conform with the philosophy, "The Dog adapts to the Team, not the Team to the Dog." Consideration of deploying a SWAT Dog in a high intensity situation must be sanctioned accordingly.
3. These exercises cover a limited number of tactical applications. No single exercise is intended to be a resolution in and of itself. Any combination of behaviors may be used according to tactical need.
4. Due to the unique and meticulous training associated with a SWAT Dog, Handlers may choose to concentrate on one skill category at a time. Accordingly, certification may also be conducted one category at a time.
5. The SWAT Dog evaluation shall be concluded within a reasonable length of time after it is begun. Most evaluations may be concluded within 24 hours, however, climate conditions, injuries, etc. may cause delays. This is to establish that the Dog's mental and physical endurance are sufficient to withstand the rigors of active service.
6. A certification is an official police function. Accordingly, official uniforms

shall be worn by any Handler presenting a Dog for an examination. Handlers are expected to display appropriate tactical skills during the course of the examination. All collars, harness, etc. worn by the dog shall be approved by the Judge prior to an examination.

7. In the event a Handler or Dog does not exhibit suitable skill during an examination, no certification shall be issued at that time. A re-take of certain elements may be permitted, at the Judge's discretion. If elements are re-taken, they must be examined within the "reasonable-time" constraint. The entire examination may be re-taken if desired, after a period of time to be established by the respective Judge or Agency.
8. No portion of these performance objectives should be construed to suggest a restriction against participating in other types of Dog Trials, so long as the event carries significant benefit to the Dog's official function. Handlers should exercise caution when determining whether or not to participate in such Trials. Handlers should seek competent input from administrators or other experienced Handlers or Trainers as to the degree of benefit versus the risk.
9. In the interest of equity for all certificants, the following should be ensured during an examination:
 1. All scenarios are deployed within a reasonable time frame;
 2. All simulated suspects utilized in the scenarios are foreign to the Dog.
10. Voice commands, hand signals, or other discreet forms of communications are permitted. Repeating a command or a signal is permitted only if it is evident the Dog did not hear or see it or if it is integral to the exercise. The Judge shall determine the appropriateness of the action. Commands or signals other than those declared as official shall be considered Handler Help. Excessively loud commands, objects, and food used as motivations are not professional and are not allowed. The Dog should respond to commands in a professional manner.
11. The Handler shall act in a professional manner at all times during the examination. Questions and clarifications may be directed to the SWAT Dog Judge at any appropriate time.
12. The SWAT Dog Judge shall issue a weapon (pistol, knife, etc.) to the simulated suspect in at least one of the apprehension scenarios being resolved. The weapon shall be carried such that it can be discovered only by a careful frisk. The Handler is expected to find all weapons thus assigned and failure to do so shall be grounds for withholding the certification from the Handler.
13. The SWAT Dog Handler and Dog form an operational team. Therefore, a Dog is to be examined with the respective Handler it is to be deployed with.
14. The SWAT Dog must achieve an overall skill rating of at least "Suitable" in the scenarios challenged to be declared serviceable. For agencies that employ a Pass/Fail evaluation standard, a Pass is required for the previous constraint. Additionally, the Dog must also achieve a skill level rating of "Suitable" or "Pass" in each of the following critical behaviors, respective to the individual scenario being tested:
 1. Detaining a submissive person;
 2. Subduing a furtive, hostile or fleeing person;
 3. Releasing a person on command;
 4. Indicating the presence of a person;

5. Disengaging upon command;
6. Over-ride Command;
7. Tactical Release; and/or
8. Emergency Release.

The SWAT Dog must achieve a skill rating of "Pass" in the following skills, which are evaluated on a Pass-Fail basis:

9. Sociability;
 10. Gunfire; and
 11. Pain Tolerance.
15. Definitions of Behavior.

1. Heel: The Dog shall accompany the Handler willingly and attentively, keeping its shoulder in line with the Handler's torso. Forging or lagging, wide or crowding behavior is faulty. Only at a change of pace may the Handler issue an additional command or signal. The normal and fast paces shall be distinctly different. Police Dog heeling is not competition heeling. If the Dog is attentive to its environment while heeling, this is desirable. A robotic focus on the Handler is not optimal.



2. Sit: If the Handler halts, the Dog shall, without command or signal, sit immediately in the Heel position. The Handler shall not move in order to favor the Dog's position, but rather, the Dog shall position itself according to the Handler. This behavior is important so that the Handler does not have to worry what the Dog is doing if s/he stops during team movement or stops to talk to another Officer or person. Assuming a sit position causes the Dog to feel controlled and less likely to move about on its own.



3. Down: If the Handler commands or signals the Dog to Down, it shall comply immediately. If this occurs during Heeling, the Dog shall lie parallel to the Handler. If this occurs during an apprehension task i.e., Detaining, Pursuit, etc., the Dog shall lie facing the relevant person. The down posture is the most controlled of all the positions a Dog may be commanded to assume. It is also the most submissive of all postures.



4. Recall: If the Handler Recalls the Dog, it shall respond immediately and run at top speed to the Handler. Either the "Front" or the "Heel/Finish" is prescribed for a Recall, depending on the verbal/silent command given by the Handler. The Recall is a critical behavior, as it is one of the major ways to control a Dog that has acquired a wrong target ID or has misinterpreted the Handler's intention.



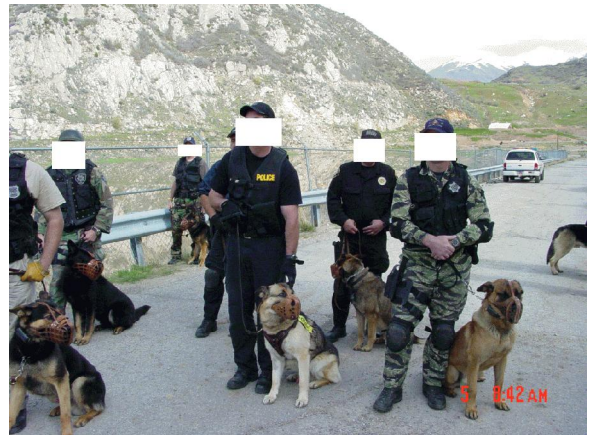
5. Jump/Climb: If the Handler commands or signals the Dog to jump/climb an obstacle, it should respond immediately. When the Dog is exiting an obstacle it has had to climb, it should also attempt to climb down, rather than just jump off. This is to diminish the risk of a shoulder injury. A Dog's shoulders are not in a joint or socket, and are held to the rib cage only by sinew. Continued jumping has a cumulative effect which damages the integrity of the connective tissue and the shoulders may become irreparably damaged. The practice of having Dog's jump off obstacles 6'-10' high, as in years past, should be avoided as much as possible.



6. Stand in Place: If the Handler commands or signals the Dog to stand in place (lifted over a fence, remain in car, vet inspection, etc.), it should respond immediately.



7. Behavior in Public: If the Handler walks through a group of people, the Dog should remain at Heel - neutral and safe. Touching or sniffing a person is faulty. The Handler shall ensure sufficient space between the Dog and others. This neutral and safe demeanor shall be maintained, even if the Handler speaks or a person speaks to the Handler. The minimum acceptable standard for a Patrol Dog is to act neutral in a neutral environment, it is not mandatory that the Handler permits petting or socializing ... as that is according to Departmental or Handler Policy/Procedure/Practice. Any other requirement beyond "neutral in a neutral environment" exceeds the minimum professional standard of acceptable behavior.



8. Surveillance: If the Handler assumes a Surveillance position with the Dog, the prescribed posture shall be a kneeling Handler beside a sitting Dog or a prone Handler beside a downed dog, whichever is appropriate. For examination purposes, the Handler may hold the Dog by the collar. The Dog shall be attentive to the terrain being surveilled and shall remain quiet and attentive, even if the Handler addresses a person.



9. Pursuit: If the Handler commands or signals the Dog to Pursue a person, the Dog shall respond immediately by running at top speed.



10. Suspect Search: If the Handler initiates a Suspect Search, s/he shall begin it from the Heel position and off-leash. The Dog shall search as commanded or signaled, purposefully, intensely, and systematically. The command or signal may be issued together with the name of the Dog. The Handler may give additional commands or signals as the Dog is directed to each new quadrant of the search area.



11. Pinpointing (aka Finding): If a SWAT Dog is deployed on a search for a person or criminal evidence, it shall do so as described herein. If it perceives odor



from a person or evidence, it shall immediately pinpoint the source of the odor. Pinpointing differs from Searching in that it is evaluated as independent behavior manifested by the Dog, whereas Searching is a Handler-controlled behavior.

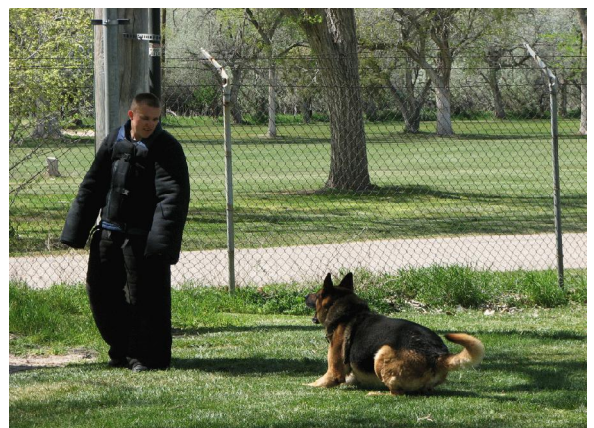
12. Suspect Indication: In note very case is a SWAT Dog commanded to engage a suspect when one is encountered. If no "override" command has been given, a SWAT Dog may merely Indicate a person's presence. In this case, if a SWAT Dog locates a passive, submissive or inaccessible suspect while searching, it shall respond by immediately and persistently barking to advise the Handler of the exact location. The barking should give the impression that the Dog is calling for backup (Handler) and not that the Dog is attempting to induce the suspect to move, flinch, or flush the suspect out of his/her location.



13. Detaining a Passive Person: If a SWAT Dog has been given a general search command (not an over-ride command) and then locates a passive person, it shall immediately, intensely, and persistently hold the person without physical contact. The Dog may assume a posture of sitting, standing, downing or circling to aid in the task. A Detaining SWAT Dog shall not invade the passive person's body space. Optimal distance is 3-6 feet. Should the Dog Detain from behind the suspect's hiding place or circle the entire location, this is not faulty. For evaluation purposes, if a muzzled Detaining Dog bumps a passive person with the muzzle it shall be assumed to have bitten. Further, if an unmuzzled Dog bites a passive person, it is considered an escalation of force initiated by the dog.



14. Richey Technique: A Handler may opt to strategically omit an official announcement prior to deploying a SWAT Dog to deal with a suspect. This might occur if the Handler perceives that the announcement may, of itself, create a substantial risk to the Handler and/or others, or the announcement may create an opportunity for a high-threat-level suspect to evade capture. In this case, no announcement is given before deployment and the dog assumes a Release/Guard posture at the moment the Handler issues lawful orders to the suspect. This technique is named after Jon Richey of the Salt Lake City, Utah who perfected its training/deployment process.



A proper Richey Technique is as follows. The Handler quietly keys the Dog on the suspect. Without an announcement, s/he deploys the Dog. The Dog runs at top speed toward the suspect. As the Dog approaches to about 30 feet distance, the Handler yells out a lawful order, such as "Police! Stay Still!"

The Dog closes to within about 3-6 feet and goes into a Release/Guard posture.

15. Over-ride Command or "Dial Technique": A SWAT Dog trained to Detain or Guard a passive suspect holds and restricts that person without



physical contact. Refer to Detaining and Guarding. A Dog lacks the mental faculties to recognize a slow yet furtive movement and normally does not then Engage, even though it may be appropriate to do so. A Handler, however, may recognize a slow movement as being furtive and may decide to have the Dog Engage the suspect. This may also be described as an "Override" command for a Detaining or Guarding Patrol Dog. The override command is also beneficial when the Handler decides to have a pursuing Dog automatically Engage a suspect, even if motionless. This technique is named after Wayne Dial of the Salt Lake City, Utah who perfected its training process.

A proper Dial Technique is as follows. The Dog is Pursuing, Detaining, or Guarding when the Handler issues the override command. If Pursuing, the Dog Engages without hesitation as it approaches; if Detaining or Guarding, the Dog Engages immediately upon hearing the command. This command overrides any other trained behavior and causes the Dog to Engage.

16. Subduing a Fleeing Person: If a SWAT Dog engages a fleeing person while searching or pursuing, it shall exhibit considerable pain compliance through biting to subdue. Considerable combat behavior should enhance the pain compliance. If the Dog is muzzled, as in training or certification, intense bumping and wrestling should be evident.



17. Subduing a Hostile Person: If a SWAT Dog engages a hostile person while searching or pursuing, it shall exhibit considerable pain compliance through biting to subdue. Considerable combat behavior should enhance the pain compliance. If the Dog is muzzled, as in training or certification, intense bumping and wrestling should be evident.



18. Verbal Release: If a Handler commands a SWAT Dog to Release its grip or cease its Detain, it shall respond by
1. Immediately release primary control of the subject, whether Engaged or Detaining;



2. Assume a position, i.e., sit/stand/down/return
 1. Sit at a distance out of suspect striking range yet close enough to react efficiently to a furtive movement or an over-ride command, optimal distance is 3-6 feet



2. Stand at a distance out of suspect striking range yet close enough to react efficiently to a furtive movement or an over-ride command, optimal distance is 3-6 feet



3. Down at a distance out of suspect striking range yet close enough to react efficiently to a furtive movement or an over-ride command, optimal distance is 3-6 feet



4. Return to the Heel position;



3. Remain quiet; and
4. Remain alert for furtive movement.

A proper Verbal Release is as follows. On a lawful order to a compliant suspect, such as "Stay Still," the Dog shall immediately let go, if Engaged. If a position command is given such as "Heel" the Dog shall immediately respond to the respective command (in this case return to the Heel position). It should then be alert and quiet, ready to react to a furtive movement. Reasonable human behavior from the suspect shall

be tolerated by the Dog when commanded to Release. It should not Engage, for example, if the suspect merely coughs or cries out.

1. If the Dog assumes a position near the suspect, it should be out of impact weapon striking range and personal body space, yet close enough to react efficiently to a furtive movement or an over-ride command.

19. Tactical Release: A Tactical Release is a maneuver which may be appropriate when there is considerable physical activity between the subject, the



Handler, or even the Tactical Team during a capture. It may be utilized anytime the Handler perceives that the Dog may misinterpret the actions of any of the above. It is a maneuver intended to diminish the possibility of unintended injury to the Subject, Handler, or the Tactical Team. It is a form of Verbal Release, with the added element of physical control of the Dog. It is commonly referred to as a "Hands-on Verbal Release."

It is critical to know that a Tactical Release is different from a Lift-Off (aka Choke-off). A Tactical Release is a deployment technique, while a Lift-Off is a training technique. Also, during a Tactical Release, the Handler issues a Verbal Release command; while during a Lift-Off, the Handler issues the Engage command. Finally, during a Tactical Release, the Dog is expected to Release its grip within 3 seconds; while during a Lift-Off, the Dog is trained to hold on for as long as its air supply will sustain it.

A proper Tactical Release is as follows.

1. Handler gains control of the Dog's head;
2. Handler announces to the Tactical Team "Tactical Release";
3. Handler gives the Verbal Release command to the Dog;
4. The Dog responds to the Handler within three seconds;
5. The Handler lifts the Dog clear of Subject and Tactical Team;
6. The Handler announces to the Tactical Team "Dog Off";
7. The Handler moves the Dog away from the Tactical Team;
8. The Handler/Dog assume a backup position; and
9. The Dog remains alert and quiet, ready to Engage again.



20. Emergency Release: An Emergency Release is a maneuver which may be

appropriate when the Handler perceives an exigent circumstance during a capture. For example, a subject may appear unconscious or catatonic, a Backup Officer inadvertently is bitten, or some other situation in which life-threatening conditions exist AND the subject is obviously compliant or non-threatening.

A proper Emergency Release is as follows:

1. The Kerby Emergency Release - rigid hands at throat and at base of skull.

This technique is advantageous for a larger or stronger Handler. The Handler approaches the Dog with his/her hands rigid and flat ... place one hand at the top of the throat and the other at the base of the skull ... press inward firmly with both hands to secure the Dog's head ... squeeze tightly and hold on as the Dog opens its mouth ... gently maneuver the Dog's mouth away from the bite-site ... firmly hold onto the Dog's head to prevent an inadvertent secondary bite ... move the Dog away from the person in a safe manner ... be aware that the Dog may slip into Survival Drive during the procedure ... help the Dog to recover from the Kerby Emergency Release by using a calming voice.

2. The Lentz Technique - conventional choke-hold.

The Handler approaches the Dog in a manner to effectively get the Dog's throat positioned in the crook of one arm ... place the other arm such that the Dog's neck is now in the conventional choke-hold position ... squeeze tightly and hold on as the Dog opens its mouth ... gently maneuver the Dog's mouth away from the bite-site ... firmly hold onto the Dog's head to prevent an inadvertent secondary bite ... move the Dog away from the person in a safe manner ... be aware that the Dog may slip into Survival Drive during the procedure ... help the Dog to recover from the Lentz Emergency Release by using a calming voice.

3. The Nope Technique - tightened chain collar at top of throat.

This technique is advantageous for a smaller person with lesser arm strength. The Handler approaches the Dog with his/her hands ready to grasp the chain collar at each side of the Dog's head ... Grasp the collar such that the fingers are next to the Dog's neck ... slide the collar as far forward as possible so that it is high on the Dog's neck but still on the windpipe ... squeeze the collar tightly such that the Dog's air supply is completely shut off ... hold on tightly as the Dog opens its mouth ... gently maneuver the Dog's mouth away from the bite-site ... firmly hold the Dog's head to prevent an inadvertent secondary bite ... move the Dog away from the person in a safe manner ... be aware that the Dog may slip into Survival Drive during the procedure ... help the Dog to recover from the Nope Emergency Release by using a calming voice.

21. Disengage: If a SWAT Dog is Pursuing or Engaging a person, the Handler may deem it appropriate to completely "shut down" the Dog from its task, due to exigent circumstances. The Disengage behavior is not a "Release," but rather, a total task shutdown. Any reasonable behavior is acceptable for a Disengage, such as a "Down en route" or a "Recall to Handler." Four exigent circumstances may prompt the Handler to Disengage the Dog:



1. Wrong "Target ID" during a deployment;
2. The Dog is ineffective in controlling or subduing a suspect, perhaps due to chemical influences on the suspect and further deployment is not strategically valuable;
3. The suspect is non-compliant:
 1. to lawful orders due to extreme fear or a state of panic to the degree of loss of sensibility, and
 1. not an overt threat to the Handler or another person, or
 2. further deployment is not strategically valuable; or
 3. further deployment will substantially increase the degree of injury to the suspect.
4. The Dog is in danger and the overall circumstances do not merit leaving the Dog on-task.
 1. The Dog is in danger from an overly-hostile subject.
 2. The Dog is in danger from a suspect wielding a deadly force instrument.
 3. The Dog is in danger from the environment, i.e., pursuing a suspect across a busy street.

One rule of thumb for initiating a Disengage during a physical encounter is, "When tissue damage supercedes pain compliance - Disengage!"

A proper Disengage is as follows. The Dog is Pursuing or Engaged when the Handler issues the Disengage command. If Pursuing, the Dog shuts down from its Pursuit; if Engaging, the Dog shuts down immediately upon hearing the command. In either case, the Dog may assume a position away from the Handler or may be recalled to the Handler. This Disengage command overrides any other trained behavior and causes the Dog to shut down. An officer of agency may choose what action the Dog takes after the command; for example, lay down or return to the Heel position once shutting down. It is always an option to re-deploy the Dog if desired.

30. Pain Tolerance: Pain Tolerance or "Hardness" is a critical issue for the SWAT Dog in modern society. It has been discovered by sad experience that some suspects vigorously resist the application of a SWAT Dog to subdue them and even attempt to hurt the Dog. Therefore, it is mandatory that the Dog exhibit considerable pain tolerance in order to successfully Engage and Subdue suspects. For examination purposes, pain tolerance is evaluated by mentally intimidating and physically stinging the Dog. Any physical strikes with a simulated weapon should be carefully aimed for the less-sensitive portions of its body, such as the rib cage.



31. Gunsureness: Gunsureness is a critical issue for the SWAT Dog in modern society. The incidence of officer-involved shootings has increased dramatically over the years, requiring that a SWAT Dog is more stable than ever. The optimal behavior is "Gunfire-sure," however, a Dog that is "Gunfire-sensitive" yet controllable may be allowed. "Gunfire-shy" dogs should not function as SWAT Dogs.



SWAT Dog Certification Scenarios

1. Tactical Heeling while Moving in a Team Formation

The Handler and Dog shall assume a position within a Tactical Team. The Team shall exhibit advancing movements in normal, slow, and fast speeds. The Dog shall exhibit an Automatic Sit each time the Team halts.

2. Engagement Maneuvers while Moving in a Team Formation

During this sequence of exercises the Handler shall be issued a sidearm loaded with blank ammunition. The Handler and Dog shall exhibit Tactical Heeling along a predetermined route. At some point the Handler shall raise the handgun to the "Target" position and fire one volley of two shots. Simultaneously, the Dog shall - without a command - sit (or down, etc.) calmly and quietly at the heel position. The Handler shall then continue Tactical Heeling at a slow pace. Next, s/he shall drop to a crouching position and fire another volley of two shots. Again, the Dog shall sit (or down, etc.) automatically and remain calm and alert. The Handler shall then continue Tactical Heeling at a fast pace. Next, s/he shall drop to a prone position and fire a volley of two shots. Now the Dog shall assume a down position beside the Handler. Finally, the Handler shall run at top speed for at least 50 yards and then halt. The Dog shall remain at heel during this sprint.

3. Vertical and Horizontal Movement Displayed by Handler and Dog

The Dog may be outfitted in a harness to be worn by its Handler so that the Dog may be evaluated as it is carried horizontally and vertically through a series of obstacles and exercises. These shall consist of at least:

1. A horizontal ladder apparatus;
2. A horizontal walk atop a 6 inch wide wall;
3. A horizontal sprint of 25 yards;
4. A vertical climb up a 25 foot ladder;
5. A vertical climb over a six foot high wall;
6. A vertical descent of 25 feet on a building; and
7. A vertical descent of 25 feet in free space.

4. Physical Endurance Displayed by Dog

The Dog shall run a distance of two miles over flat terrain in 12:00 minutes or less. This should not be an exhaustive effort and the Dog shall display an ability to deploy if called upon. The Judge shall determine the procedure to evaluate the Dog's functionality at this point. The Handler may travel via bicycle or other safe type of vehicle (Segway, electric cart, etc.).

5. Perimeter Control During Tactical Operations

The Handler and Dog shall assume a Surveillance position as directed by the evaluator. Every 10 minutes for 60 minutes a new distraction shall be presented, in order to evaluate the Dog's ability to remain disciplined. These distractions shall consist of at least:

1. Minimum of 18 rounds of blank ammunition fired by a group of at least three subjects running perpendicular to the Handler and Dog at close range, yelling

- and making hostile gestures;
- 2. Four individuals engaged in a loud physical encounter at close range;
- 3. A vehicle screeching to a halt at close range from the rear;
- 4. Another Dog engaging an individual at close range;
- 5. An exercise of the evaluator's choice; and
- 6. An exercise of the evaluator's choice.

The Handler shall not physically influence the Dog's behavior during any of these activities. Whisper-level verbal interaction with the Dog is permitted. After the Surveillance, another volley of blank gunfire shall be fired from a distance. An individual shall then flee across the perimeter. The Handler shall issue an appropriate warning before deploying the Dog. The Dog shall pursue and engage the fleeing person in strong combat.

The Dog shall continue in combat until the perpetrator begins to exhibit a distinct change of behavior. S/he shall clearly want to give up and show signs of extreme fear. S/he shall make defensive gestures toward the Dog, as if trying to protect him/herself from further injury. At this point the Handler shall Disengage the Dog. When the Dog Disengages, the person will continue to act fearful. The actions shall be vigorous and loud, but clearly fearful. S/he will not stand still, but neither will s/he be threatening or furtive or fleeing.

The Dog shall maintain its Disengaged posture as Tactical Team personnel secure the individual. The Dog shall disregard the Team members as they function. The exercise concludes when the individual is removed from the area.

6. Tandem Apprehension of Multiple Suspects

Two Handlers and Dogs assume a Surveillance position for a period of ten minutes. The Handlers shall be in very close quarters with each Dog lying next to its Handler. Two individuals shall appear at a distance of at least 50 yards. The Handlers shall issue appropriate warnings before deploying the Dogs.

After the Dogs have begun to pursue, the individuals shall turn and charge the Dogs. The persons shall be no further than ten feet apart as they charge. The Dogs shall engage the individuals, separately, in strong combat. The Tactical Team and Handlers shall safely advance to a safe proximity before instructing the Dogs to Release.

The Dogs shall remain in a guarding posture until Tactical Team personnel approach to secure the individuals. The Dogs shall disregard the Tactical Team as they approach the subjects. The Handlers shall then control their Dogs as per their respective agency protocols. The exercise concludes when the individuals are removed from the area.

7. Discrimination of a Targeted Subject

The Handler and Dog shall assume a prone Surveillance position in a very concealed location. The field of view shall be partially obstructed by vehicles, etc. Over a period of fifteen minutes several individuals shall walk and jog through the area. At the ten minute mark an individual representing a High-Risk Subject shall enter the area and sit quietly.

The Handler shall discreetly target the Dog on the Subject. Over the next five minutes other individuals shall walk and jog through the area. The evaluator shall instruct the Handler to deploy the Dog - without a Warning - to engage the

motionless Subject. The Dog shall pursue and engage the person in strong combat while, simultaneously, Tactical Team personnel rush in, grasp, and secure him/her.

The Team shall rapidly drag the Subject for at least fifty feet while the Dog maintains its hold. Only then may the Handler cause the Dog to Release. It shall then disregard any actions of Team members. The exercise concludes when the individual is removed from the area.

8. Disruption of a Targeted Subject

This exercise shall begin prior to the arrival of the Handler and Dog. An individual shall be instructed by the Evaluator to brandish a handgun loaded with blank ammunition in such a way as to simulate a mentally disturbed subject. The individual shall exhibit no overt intentional harm to others.

The Handler and Dog shall then be instructed to assume a Surveillance position as near the individual as tactically possible. Once they are in place, the individual shall escalate his/her level of activity, continuing the mentally disturbed behavior, but still show no overt intent to harm anyone else. After at least four attempts by another officer to talk the person into submission, the Handler shall be given a signal to deploy the Dog if possible.

The Handler shall watch for a moment when the Dog might be deployed to disrupt the individual's behavior. The Dog shall then be deployed - without a Warning - to disrupt the person's behavior. At the moment the Dog engages, the weapon shall be dropped and Tactical Team personnel shall rush in to secure the individual. The Dog shall disregard any actions by the Team and maintain its hold.

When the person is secured the Handler may cause the Dog to Release. It shall again disregard any actions of Team members. The exercise concludes when the individual is removed from the area.

9. Stealth Entry, Team Movement, and Clearing High-Risk Areas

The Handler and Dog shall assume a position in a line of Tactical Team personnel exiting a vehicle. The Team shall advance to a position outside a building. When signaled by the evaluator, the Team shall make a stealth entry. With the application of a "Dragline," the Handler and Dog shall exhibit the following behaviors depending on the layout of the building:

1. Clearing a Stairwell;
2. Clearing a Hallway;
3. Clearing a Crawlspace/Attic; and/or
4. Clearing a Dark Room.

The evaluator shall have placed an individual representing a High-Risk Subject in one of these four areas prior to the deployment. S/he shall engage the Dog as soon as it comes within the field of vision. The Handler shall not be forewarned about which area the Subject is hiding in.

The Dog shall engage in strong combat with the Subject. S/he shall strike the Dog sharply several times on the less sensitive parts of its body and eventually begin yelling for the Dog to be called off. The Handler, assisted by other Team personnel if necessary, shall use the Dragline to bring the person to the Team. Other Team personnel shall use appropriate tactics to provide cover during this maneuver.

When the Subject is within reach, Team members shall secure him/her. During this entire process, the Dog shall maintain its hold on the Subject, disregarding the

actions of the Tactical officers. Only when the person is secured may the Handler cause the Dog to Release. Again, the Dog shall disregard any Team member. The exercise concludes when the individual is removed from the area.

10. Forced Extraction of a Non-Compliant High-Risk Subject

The Handler and Dog shall assume a position in a line of an Extraction Team preparing to approach a location from which a Subject is to be extracted. The Team shall advance to a position outside the location. The Team shall follow whatever departmental protocol has been established prior enacting to the extraction.

With the application of a "Dragline," the Handler and Dog shall extract the subject to a point at which the Extraction Team will secure the subject. Other members of the Extraction Team may assist the Handler if necessary to bring the Subject to the Team. When the Subject is within reach, Team members shall secure him/her. During this entire process, the Dog shall maintain its hold on the Subject, disregarding the actions of the Extraction Team.

Only when the Subject is secured may the Handler cause the Dog to Release. Again, the Dog shall disregard any Extraction Team member. The exercise concludes when the Subject is removed from the area.

11. Forced Capture of a Non-Compliant High-Risk Subject

The Handler and Dog shall assume a position in a line of a Capture Team preparing to approach a location from which a subject is to be captured. The Team shall advance to an appropriate tactical position. The Team shall follow whatever departmental protocol has been established prior to enacting the capture.

The Handler shall then deploy the Dog to engage the Subject to be captured. The Capture Team shall then tactically advance until they are able to subdue the Subject. If multiple Subjects are present, the Team shall enact such tactics as departmentally established for the situation. The Handler shall accompany the Capture Team and assist as departmental protocol dictates. During this entire process, the Dog shall maintain its hold on the Subject, disregarding the actions of the Capture Team. Only when the Subject is secured may the Handler cause the Dog to Release. Again, the Dog shall disregard any Capture Team member. The exercise concludes when the Subject is removed from the area.

Certification Examination

This document is an administrative tool to collect data for POST Staff to update the files on Officer and Dog. Dogs judged via Pass-Fail protocol need only have a "P" recorded in the mandatory pass blanks to reflect a 4.00 gpa or better.

Handler _____ Dog _____ Date _____

Department _____ Work _____

Full Address _____

Email _____ Cell _____

Overall Exam Performance	Grade _____	Chief Judge _____
Tactical Heeling	Grade _____	Judge _____
Engagement Maneuvers	Grade _____	Judge _____
Vertical/Horizontal Movement	Grade _____	Judge _____
Physical Endurance	Grade _____	Judge _____
Perimeter Control	Grade _____	Judge _____
Tandem Apprehension	Grade _____	Judge _____
Target Discrimination	Grade _____	Judge _____
Target Disruption	Grade _____	Judge _____
Stealth Entry, Team Movement	Grade _____	Judge _____
Forced Extraction	Grade _____	Judge _____
Forced Capture	Grade _____	Judge _____

Explanation Evaluation Criteria

Superior Performance.....	Flawless and exemplary.....	Letter Grade (A)
Commendable Performance.....	Notably skillful display.....	Letter Grade (B)
Typical Performance.....	Comparable to veteran Narco Dog.....	Letter Grade (C)
Suitable Performance.....	Consistent with deployment needs.....	Letter Grade (D)
Improvement Needed.....	Falls below streetworthy performance..	Letter Grade (I)
Unskilled Performance.....	Little or no skill displayed.....	Letter Grade (U)

Grading Scale or Increments

1 = Superior Performance.....	Flawless and exemplary.....	Letter Grade (A)
2 = Commendable Performance.....	Notably skillful display.....	Letter Grade (B)
3 = Typical Performance.....	Comparable to veteran Narco Dog.....	Letter Grade (C)
4 = Suitable Performance.....	Consistent with deployment needs.....	Letter Grade (D)
5 = Improvement Needed.....	Falls below streetworthy performance..	Letter Grade (I)
6 = Unskilled Performance.....	Little or no skill displayed.....	Letter Grade (U)

Grading Curve

1.00-1.74 = Superior	Flawless and exemplary.....	Letter Grade (A)
1.75-2.49 = Commendable	Notably skillful display.....	Letter Grade (B)
2.50-3.24 = Typical	Comparable to veteran Narco Dog.....	Letter Grade (C)
3.25-4.00 = Suitable	Consistent with deployment needs.....	Letter Grade (D)
4.01-5.00 = Improvement Needed..	Below streetworthy performance.....	Letter Grade (I)
5.01-6.00 = Unskilled	Little or no skill displayed.....	Letter Grade (U)

Tactical Heeling while Moving in a Team Formation

Heeling	-	-
Sit	-	-

Engagement Maneuvers while Moving in a Team Formation

Heeling	-	-
Sit	-	-
Down	-	-
Gunfire	- P F -	

Vertical and Horizontal Movement Displayed by Handler and Dog

Horizontal Ladder	-	-
Horizontal Wall	-	-
Horizontal Sprint	-	-
Vertical Ladder	-	-
Vertical Wall	-	-
Vertical Descent	-	-
Vertical Free	-	-

Physical Endurance Displayed by Dog

2 Miles Time	-	-
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Perimeter Control During Tactical Operations

Surveillance	-	-
Gunfire	-	-
Loud Encounter	-	-
Vehicle Screech	-	-
Engaging Dog	-	-
Gunfire Volley	-	-
Engage	-	-
Disengage	-	-
Release/Disregard	-	-

Tandem Apprehension of Multiple Suspects

Surveillance	-	-
Discriminate	-	-
Pursuit/Impact	-	-
Engage	-	-
Release/Disregard	-	-

Discriminating a Targeted Subject

Surveillance	-	-
Discrimination	-	-
Engage	-	-
Disregard Team 50'	-	-
Release/Disregard	-	-

Disruption of a Targeted Subject

Approach	-	-
Surveillance	-	-
Engage	-	-
Release/Disregard	-	-

Stealth Entry, Team Movement, and Clearing High-Risk Areas

Exit Vehicle	-	-
Tactical Advance	-	-
Stairwell	-	-
Hallway	-	-
Crawlspac	-	-
Dark Room	-	-
Engage	-	-
Pain Tolerance	-	-
Dragline	-	-
Release/Disregard	-	-

Forced Extraction of a Non-Compliant High-Risk Subject

Tactical Advance	-	-
Warnings	-	-
Engage	-	-
Dragline	-	-
Release/Disregard	-	-

Forced Capture of a Non-Compliant High-Risk Subject

Tactical Advance	-	-
Warnings	-	-
Engage	-	-
Release/Disregard	-	-